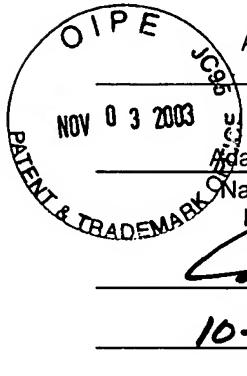


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## GROUP 3600

Our Case No. 10541/345  
Disclosure No. V200-854

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
Akhtar et al. )  
Serial No. 10/034,574 ) Examiner: Burch, Melody M.  
Filing Date: December 27, 2001 ) Group Art Unit No. 3683  
For VARIABLE RATE COMPOSITE )  
LEAF SPRING DESIGN )

## **AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 30, 2003 and Advisory Action mailed August 28, 2003, please enter the following amendment: